Subject: Spanish American dollars

McKendrick, R.F.
[Taunton, MA]

November 5, 1924

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Mr. R. F. McKendrick
Taunton, Mass.

Dear Sir:

The two Spanish American dollars, of which you sent rubbings, are the common types of the period. The M is the Mint mark of Mexico City. The F.M. are the initials of the mint master. I am unable to tell you the name of this man. The motto on the ribbon is Plus Ultra, which was used on all Spanish coins of the New World, the significance being that from classical times the Greek world was confined by the pillars of Hercules, and the motto was "Ne Plus Ultra". When the Spanish and Portuguese pushed out around the world, they destroyed this old superscription and "revamped" the motto to fit their adventurous spirit.

Very truly yours,

Curator